

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

Page 7, line 16 to page 8, line 2:

Referring now to Figures 6-9, a second embodiment of a retracted hardtop according to the present invention will be discussed. The hardtop 30 is similar to the first embodiment, but instead has three main sections instead of two. More specifically, the front section 32 of the hardtop 30 is now divided into a front panel 34 and a median panel 36 which are articulated with respect to one another. As with the previous embodiment, the rear section 38 includes the backlight 40 that extends between a pair of side portions ~~[[32]]~~ 42. A center panel opening 43 is defined fore and aft between the median panel 36, the backlight 40 and laterally between the side portions 42. An articulating center panel 44 is positioned in the center panel opening 43. As with the previous embodiment, the center panel 44 is attached to a balance link 46, though the interconnection between the balance link 46 and center panel 44 is not shown in each of the figures. The center panel 44 moves with the balance link 46 and is displaced in and out of the center panel opening 43 during movement of the hardtop 30 between the extended position, shown in Figure 6, and the retracted position, shown in Figure 9, respectively. As should be clear to those of skill in the art, the center panel 44 may be connected to the balance link 46 in a variety of ways.